

And find the same correctly engrossed.

GOUGH, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 19, 1897.

Hon. Geo. T. Jester, President of the Senate.

Your Committee on Engrossed Bills have carefully examined and compared

Senate bill No. 263, a bill to be entitled "An act to lease to H. P. N. Gammel of Austin, Travis county, Texas, the stereotyped plates of volumes fifty-six (56) to eighty-six (86), inclusive, of the Texas reports, being reports of the decisions of the Supreme Court of Texas,"

And find the same correctly engrossed.

GOUGH, Chairman.

On motion of Senator Colquitt, the Senate adjourned to 10 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

FIFTY-SECOND DAY.

Senate Chamber,
Austin, Tex., Saturday, Mar. 20.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Lieutenant Governor Jester in the chair.

Roll called. Quorum present, the following Senators answering to their names:

Atlee.	Lewis.
Bailey.	Linn of Victoria.
Beall.	Morriss.
Bowser.	Neal.
Burns.	Presler.
Colquitt.	Rogers.
Darwin.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Tillett.
Goss.	Wayland.
Gough.	Woods.
Greer.	Yantis.
Harrison.	

Absent.

Boren.	Terrell.
Kerr.	Turney.
Stone.	Yett.

Excused.

Linn of Wharton. Stafford.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. F. S. Jackson.

Pending the reading of the Journal of yesterday,

On motion of Senator Wayland, the same was dispensed with.

On motion of Senator Morriss, Senator Yett was excused for to-day, on account of important business.

On motion of Senator Colquitt, Senator Kerr was excused for to-day, on account of important business.

On motion of Senator Greer, The Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Pace, was excused until Monday, on account of sickness in his family.

On motion of Senator Darwin, Senator Bailey was excused for non-attendance on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week, on account of important business.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS.

By Senator Beall:

Petition of citizens of Ellis county, favoring the passage of House bill No. 460.

Read and referred to Committee on State Affairs.

By Senator Beall:

Petition of railway employes of the Houston and Texas Central railway, favoring the passage of Senate bill No. 1, and House bills Nos. 236, 237 and 420, and asking for the repeal of the 4-cent rate law and the establishment of a 3-cent rate law, whether the passenger has previously purchased a ticket or not.

Read and referred to the Committee on State Affairs.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Senator Atlee:

Senate bill No. 304, a bill to be entitled "An act to validate and confirm an ordinance passed by the city council of the city of Laredo, ceding to the United States of America certain streets intersecting land to be purchased by the United States of America for the purpose of providing a new site for the military post or reservation called Fort McIntosh, for the erection of fortifications and for such other uses as the government may desire."

Read first time and referred to Committee on Towns and City Corporations.

By Senator Gough:

Senate bill No. 305, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend article 633, chapter 7, title 15, of the Penal Code of the State of Texas, relating to rape."

Read first time and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 2.

By Senator Burns (by request):

Senate bill No. 306, a bill to be entitled "An act to provide a charter for the city of Houston."

Read first time and referred to Committee on Towns and City Corporations.

By Senator Bailey:

Senate bill No. 307, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend article 2313, chapter 4, title 40, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas of 1895, relating to the introduction of certain abstracts of titles as evidence."

Read first time and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

By Senator Linn of Victoria (by request):

Senate bill No. 308, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend article 902, chapter 2, title 25, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, by adding thereto article 902a, to validate certain county bonds."

Read first time and referred to Committee on Finance.

By Senator Gough:

Senate bill No. 309, a bill to be entitled "An act making it a felony to wilfully execute and pass a check drawn on a bank where the drawer thereof has neither money nor credit, and fixing the penalty therefor, and declaring an emergency."

Read first time and referred to Judiciary Committee No. 2.

Call concluded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 20, 1897.

Hon. George T. Jester, President of the Senate.

Your Committee on Towns and City Corporations, to whom was referred

Senate bill No. 304, a bill to be entitled "An act to validate and confirm an ordinance passed by the city council of the city of Laredo, ceding to the United States of America certain streets intersecting land to be purchased by the United States of America for the purpose of providing a new site for the military post or reservation called Fort McIntosh, for the erection of fortifications and for such other uses as the government may desire."

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

BAILEY, Chairman.

Committee Room,

Austin, Texas, March 19, 1897.

Hon. Geo. T. Jester, President of the Senate:

Your Committee on Engrossed Bills

have carefully examined and compared

Senate bill No. 223, a bill to be entitled "An act to restore and confer upon the county courts of Menard and Atascosa counties the civil and criminal jurisdiction heretofore belonging to said courts under the Constitution and General Laws of the State, and to conform the jurisdiction of the district courts of the said counties to such change, and to repeal all laws in conflict with this act."

And find the same correctly engrossed.

GOUGH, Chairman.

On motion of Senator Ross, the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on its second reading,

Senate bill No. 86, a bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the taking of depositions of the Commissioner and other officers of the General Land Office."

Bill read second time.

By Senator Ross:

Amend by adding

"Section 2. The fact that the Legislature is drawing to a close, and there being no provision for taking depositions as above provided, creates an emergency and public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days be suspended, and that this act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted."

Adopted.

Bill as amended ordered engrossed.

On motion of Senator Ross, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill put upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—21.

Atlee.	Lewis.
Bailey.	Linn of Victoria.
Beall.	Morriss.
Bowser.	Neal.
Burns.	Rogers.
Colquitt.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Tillett.
Goss.	Wayland.
Gough.	Woods.
Greer.	-antis.
Harrison.	

Nays—none.

Absent.

Boren.	Stone.
Darwin.	Terrell.
Presler.	Turney.

Excused.

Kerr. Stafford.
Linn of Wharton. Yett.

Bill read third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—20.

Atlee.	Greer.
Bailey.	Harrison.
Beall.	Lewis.
Bowser.	Linn of Victoria.
Burns.	Morriss.
Colquitt.	Rogers.
Darwin.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Tillett.
Goss.	Wayland.
Gough.	Woods.

Nays—1.

Yantis.

Absent.

Boren.	Stone.
Neal.	Terrell.
Presler.	Turney.

Excused.

Kerr. Stafford.
Linn of Wharton. Yett.

On motion of Senator Wayland, the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on its third reading,

Senate bill No. 3, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend title 14 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the State of Texas, by creating and adding thereto articles 1068a, 1068b, 1068c, 1068d, 1068e, 1068f, 1068g, 1068h, 1068i, 1068j, 1068k, 1068l, 1068m, 1068n and 1068o, in relation to the apprehension, identification and conviction of all unknown persons who may be guilty of homicide, and in relation to prescribing a method by which all the circumstances and facts that might lead to the identification and capture of such unknown persons shall be reported, preserved and filed in the office of the Adjutant-General of Texas, as a secret archive of that office."

Bill read third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—20.

Atlee.	Harrison.
Bailey.	Lewis.
Beall.	Linn of Victoria.
Bowser.	Morriss.
Burns.	Rogers.
Colquitt.	Ross.
Darwin.	Tillett.
Dibrell.	Wayland.
Gough.	Woods.
Greer.	Yantis.

Nays—1.

Goss.

Absent.

Boren.	Stone.
Neal.	Terrell.
Presler.	Turney.

Excused.

Kerr. Stafford.
Linn of Wharton. Yett.

HOUSE MESSAGES.

The following House messages were received:

Hall House of Representatives,
Austin, Texas, March 20, 1897.

Hon. Geo. T. Jester, President of the Senate:

I am directed by the House to inform the Senate of the passage of the following bill:

House bill No. 413, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend article 3384, title LXIX, of the Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, relating to local option."

Respectfully,

LEE J. ROUNTREE, Chief Clerk.

Hall House of Representatives,
Austin, Texas, March 20, 1897.

Hon. George T. Jester, President of the Senate.

I am directed by the House to inform the Senate of the passage of the following bills:

House bill No. 563, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend section 6, of chapter 132, of the Acts of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Texas, passed at the regular session thereof, and entitled an act to create a more efficient road system for Dallas, Lamar and Medina counties, Texas, and making county commissioners of said counties ex-officio road commissioners and prescribing their duties as such and providing for their compensation as road commissioners, and defining the duties and powers of such county commissioners," etc.

House bill No. 556, a bill to be entitled "An act authorizing certified copies of instruments conveying lands in Archer county recorded in Jack county, from the 10th day of August, 1866, to the 10th day of August, 1870, to be admitted in evidence in all suits where secondary evidence is admissible."

House bill No. 389, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend subdivision 372 of article 22, title IX, of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas."

Respectfully,

LEE J. ROUNTREE, Chief Clerk.

IN SENATE.

The above reported House bills were read first time, and referred as follows:

House bill No. 563, to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

House bill No. 556, to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

House bill No. 413, to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

House bill No. 389, to Committee on Judicial Districts.

On motion of Senator Colquitt,

Senate bill No. 34, a bill to be entitled "An act to repeal title 82 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Texas, and to pass in lieu thereof this act, to license physicians and surgeons and to regulate the practice of medicine, and to punish persons violating the provisions thereof in the State of Texas,"

Was laid on the table subject to call.

On motion of Senator Bowser, the regular order of business was suspended, to take up on its second reading,

Senate bill No. 255, a bill to be entitled "An act to give cotton ginner a lien on the cotton ginned by them, and to prevent the fraudulent disposition of said cotton."

Bill read second time.

By Senator Bowser:

Amend by adding

"Sec. 3. Whereas, there is now no law in force giving to cotton ginner a lien upon cotton ginned, and the fact that the session is now far advanced, and the calendar crowded with bills, be it resolved that an emergency exists requiring the suspension of the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days, and it is so enacted."

Lost by the following vote:

Yeas—10.

Atlee.	Morriss.
Bowser.	Presler.
Burns.	Ross.
Goss.	Woods.
Linn of Victoria.	Yantis.

Nays—11.

Beall.	Harrison.
Colquitt.	Lewis.
Darwin.	Rogers.
Dibrell.	Tillett.
Gough.	Wayland.
Greer.	

Absent.

Bailey.	Stone.
Boren.	Terrell.
Kerr.	Turney.
Neal.	

Excused.

Linn of Wharton. Yett.
Stafford.

By Senator Presler:

Amend section 1, line 11, by adding after the word "furnished" the following, "said lien shall continue and be in force only so long as the cotton ginned shall be in the possession of the ginner or of the person for whom said cotton was ginned."

Pending action,

On motion of Senator Rogers, further action on the bill was postponed indefinitely.

On motion of Senator Presler, the regular order of business was suspended, to take up on its second reading.

Senate joint resolution No. 6, to amend section 1, of article VI, of the Constitution of the State of Texas, so as to require the payment of all poll taxes, as a prerequisite to voting, and to provide for submitting the same to a vote of the qualified voters of the State.

Resolution read second time.

By Senator Presler:

Amend section 2, in line 32, by adding after the word "Constitution" the words "requiring the payment of poll tax as a prerequisite to voting," making the clause read: "Those favoring its adoption shall have written or printed upon their ballots the words 'For the amendment to section 1 of article 6, of the Constitution, requiring the payment of poll tax as a prerequisite to voting.'"

Pending action,

On motion of Senator Presler, further action was postponed, and the resolution made special order for Tuesday, March 23, after call.

The Chair laid before the Senate,

House bill No. 67, a bill to be entitled "An act to amend article 635, title 20, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, relating to the acknowledgments of married women as to the conveyance of their separate property,"

Which had been passed by the Senate, but recalled from the House.

Senator Atlee moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Reconsidered.

By Senator Atlee:

Amend by inserting after the word "necessity" in engrossed rider, line 6, the words "and an emergency."

Adopted.

The bill was passed by the following vote:

Yeas—21.

Atlee.	Harrison.
Bailey.	Lewis.
Beall.	Linn of Victoria.
Bowser.	Morriss.
Burns.	Presler.
Colquitt.	Rogers.
Darwin.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Wayland.
Goss.	Woods.
Gough.	Yantis.
Greer.	

Nays—none.

Absent.

Boren.	Terrell.
Neal.	Tillett.
Stone.	Turney.

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

On motion of Senator Goss, the regular order of business was suspended, to take up, on its third reading,

Substitute Senate bill No. 63, a bill to be entitled "An act to repeal articles 4218d and 4218i, chapter 12a, title 87, of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, and to add to said chapter articles 4218ff and 4218fff, and to amend articles 4218e, 4218f and 4218s of said chapter and title, relating to the sale and lease of public free school and asylum lands,"

Bill read third time.

By Senator Darwin:

Amend by striking out all after the word "sections," on page 4, line 11, down to and including the word "lease," on page 5, line 9.

Lost by the following vote (requiring a two-thirds vote):

Yeas—11.

Boren.	Lewis.
Bowser.	Tillett.
Colquitt.	Wayland.
Darwin.	Woods.
Gough.	Yantis.
Harrison.	

Nays—11.

Atlee.	Linn of Victoria.
Bailey.	Morriss.
Beall.	Presler.
Dibrell.	Rogers.
Goss.	Ross.
Greer.	

Absent.

Burns.	Terrell.
Neal.	Turney.
Stone.	

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

Senator Colquitt moved to postpone further consideration of the bill until the return of Senator Turney.

Lost.

By Senator Tillett:

Amend by adding after the word "law," line 14, page 4, the following: "Provided, the sections leased by any one party are not so selected as to detach sections which are thereby left unleased."

Adopted.

By Senator Colquitt:

Amend by striking out on page 3, line 30, all after the word "inspection" down to and including the word "made," line 1, page 4.

Lost by the following vote:

Yeas—6.

Burns.	Harrison.
Colquitt.	Morriss.
Darwin.	Wayland.

Nays—18.

Atlee.	Lewis.
Bailey.	Linn of Victoria.
Beall.	Neal.
Boren.	Presler.
Bowser.	Rogers.
Dibrell.	Ross.
Goss.	Tillett.
Gough.	Woods.
Greer.	Yantis.

Absent.

Stone.	Turney.
Terrell.	

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

Senator Colquitt moved to adjourn to 10 a. m. Monday.

Lost.

Bill as amended passed by the following vote:

Yeas—17.

Atlee.	Morriss.
Bailey.	Neal.
Boren.	Presler.
Dibrell.	Rogers.
Goss.	Ross.
Gough.	Tillett.
Greer.	Woods.
Lewis.	Yantis.
Linn of Victoria.	

Nays—6.

Beall.	Darwin.
Burns.	Harrison.
Colquitt.	Wayland.

Absent.

Bowser.	Terrell.
Stone.	Turney.

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

Senator Goss moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill passed, and to law that motion on the table.

Tabled.

By consent, Senator Bowser sent up the following resolution:

Whereas, the State of Texas, its principal products and its greatest manufacturing interests are seriously affected and injured by onerous laws now in force; and

Whereas, we consider the imposition of a tax by the United States government of 2 cents per pound on the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine, now collected by the revenue department unjust and unfair; and

Whereas, the ingredients used in the manufacture of oleomargarine are derived from two of the principal products of Texas, "cotton" and "cattle;" and

Whereas, the collection of said tax seriously affects and curtails the uses and sales of their products, "cotton seed oil" and "beef fats;" and

Whereas, there are employed in the manufacture of these commodities in Texas over 100 cotton seed oil mills, refineries and beef packeries, costing some ten million dollars, and employing tens of millions of dollars annually in operation; and

Whereas, such class legislation seriously affects them and the great army of laborers employed in these different industries, and their manipulation; and

Whereas, in fact, this unjust law does very seriously affect some 90 per cent of the population of Texas; now, be it therefore

Resolved, that we make this our earnest protest to the Congress of the United States against the tax of 2 cents per pound on the sale and manufacture of oleomargarine, and ask its repeal at as early date as possible; and be it further

Resolved, that copies of these resolutions be sent to our members of both houses of Congress, with the request to use their best efforts in the repeal of this law, and prevent any further legislation against the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine.

Resolution read.

Senator Bowser moved the adoption of the resolution, and that it be incorporated in the Journal.

Senator Boren moved as a substitute that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Public Health.

Lost by the following vote:

Yeas—6.

Boren.
Darwin.
Greer.

Morriss.
Presler.
Rogers.

Nays—17.

Atlee.
Bailey.
Beall.
Bowser.
Burns.
Colquitt.
Dibrell.
Goss.
Gough.

Harrison.
Lewis.
Linn of Victoria.
Ross.
Tillett.
Wayland.
Woods.
Yantis.

Absent.

Neal.
Stone.

Terrell.
Turney.

Excused.

Kerr.
Linn of Wharton.

Stafford.
Yett.

The resolution was then adopted.

On motion of Senator Ross, the remarks of Senator Bowser in advocacy of his resolution were incorporated in the Journal, they being as follows:

Mr. President: The tax on oleomargarine levied by the government of the United States is more onerous and burdensome on the people of the South and West than the tax on tea which led to the war with our Mother Country, and when it is remembered that almost all products in this country are protected by a duty of 30 to 60 per cent, it will be seen that it is more unjust.

Why should the cotton and beef product of the South and West be taxed from 25 to 30 per cent, while the Northern and Eastern manufacturers and producers are protected? Is it just? Is it right? You need not tell me that the dairy men of New York, or the swine breeders of Illinois, should be protected against the lower priced oleomargarine, made from the oil of our cotton seed and the tallow of our cattle; chemical analysis shows that it is purer and more healthful than ordinary butter, and it should not be legislated against.

Mr. Morton, State Secretary of the United States Agricultural Department, says: "Personally, I am opposed to all that sort of legislation called 'special,' and many of the statutes relative to oleomargarine and butterine have been of that character;" and adds, "Either of these substitutes for butter, wholesomely made and afterwards approved by the public palate sufficiently to create a demand, ought to have as much right in the market as the best Jersey butter, if not sold un-

der a false nomenclature." No objections can be raised against it on the ground of public health, for it is wholesome as well as palatable. The objection, Mr. President and gentlemen of the Senate, is the price at which it can be sold in competition with lard and dairy butter. Is it right to levy this tax upon the cotton and beef producer of our section for the protection and benefit of the dairymen and hog raiser of another section? If the discrimination was against the people of some foreign country, we might not complain, but the injustice is to our own people and by our own government. The law that works this injustice should be repealed. The general government might with more justice levy a tax against kerosene oil in the interest of the tallow candle. Why not prevent the use of electricity as motive power, which has largely taken the place of horses and mules and has made the latter industry unprofitable.

Oleomargarine furnishes to the poor and those of moderate means a healthful and palatable food, and it is wrong to tax either them or the cotton grower or cattle raiser for the benefit of any other class of American citizens.

Good butter can take care of itself; lard can do the same; and Congress should see that no class of American citizens, no interests of our people should be discriminated against.

From a Southern, and particularly a Texas standpoint, this tax is unjust. Ninety per cent of the ingredients used in the manufacture of oleomargarine is from the two principal products of Texas, cotton and cattle, interests in which the people of Texas have invested hundreds of millions. We have about 100 cotton seed oil mills with an investment of more than \$7,000,000 of Texas capital; they use annually over \$10,000,000 in the manufacture of cotton seed oil; the third of this amount goes to labor, a large part of which goes to the farmer for the necessities of life, and this tax is in direct opposition and against these investments, as well as against the 3,000,000 people of Texas. Two cents per pound is equivalent to 30 per cent of the value of our annual cotton seed oil and tallow product, which amounts to millions each year levied against those who are already discriminated against by unjust laws. The tax of 2 cents per pound is not all, Mr. President, but the manufacturer of oleomargarine must pay an occupation tax of \$600 in addition thereto, and the in-

justice to two of our chief products does not stop with the manufacturer, for the law taxes the wholesale dealer in oleomargarine \$480 per annum; and that is not all: every retail dealer who sells this wholesome article of food must pay an annual tax of \$48. This injustice should no longer be submitted to. I move you, Mr. President, that the resolution be adopted, and that each of our Congressmen and United States Senators be furnished with a copy of same.

The Chair laid before the Senate,

House concurrent resolution No. 17, indorsing the Afro-American Fair and Interstate Exposition Company of Houston, Texas.

Read, and on motion of Senator Atlee,

Adopted.

Senator Atlee called up

Senate bill No. 248, a bill to be entitled "An act to authorize and permit the Aransas Pass Harbor Company to purchase from the State of Texas Harbor island, certain shoal waters and flats in front thereof and in Redfish bay on the Gulf coast of Texas, in order to encourage the procuring and maintenance of deep water at Aransas Pass,"

Which had passed the House with amendments, and moved that the Senate concur in said amendments.

Concurred.

On motion of Senator Atlee, the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on second reading,

Senate bill No. 304, a bill to be entitled "An act to validate and confirm an ordinance passed by the city council of the city of Laredo, ceding to the United States of America certain streets intersecting land to be purchased by the United States of America for the purpose of providing a new site for the military post or reservation called Fort McIntosh, for the erection of fortifications and for such other uses as the government may desire."

On motion of Senator Atlee, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill put upon its second reading by the following vote:

Yeas—23.

Atlee.	Goss.
Bailey.	Gough.
Beall.	Greer.
Boren.	Harrison.
Rowser.	Lewis.
Burns.	Linn of Victoria.
Darwin.	Morriss.
Dibrell.	Neal.

Presler.	Wayland.
Rogers.	Woods.
Ross.	Yantis.
Tillett.	

Nays—none.

Absent.

Colquitt.	Terrell.
Stone.	Turney.

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

Bill read second time, and ordered engrossed.

On motion of Senator Atlee, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill put upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—22.

Atlee.	Harrison.
Bailey.	Lewis.
Beall.	Linn of Victoria.
Boren.	Morriss.
Bowser.	Presler.
Burns.	Rogers.
Darwin.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Tillett.
Goss.	Wayland.
Gough.	Woods.
Greer.	Yantis.

Nays—none.

Absent.

Colquitt.	Terrell.
Neal.	Turney.
Stone.	

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

Bill read third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—23.

Atlee.	Harrison.
Bailey.	Lewis.
Beall.	Linn of Victoria.
Bowser.	Morriss.
Burns.	Presler.
Colquitt.	Rogers.
Darwin.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Tillett.
Goss.	Wayland.
Gough.	Woods.
Greer.	Yantis.

Nays—none.

Absent.

Neal.	Terrell.
Boren.	Turney.
Stone.	

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

HOUSE MESSAGE.

The following House message was received:

House of Representatives,
Austin, Texas, March 20, 1897.

Hon. George T. Jester, President of the Senate.

I am directed by the House to inform the Senate of the passage of the following bills:

House bill No. 473, a bill to be entitled "An act to restore to and confer upon the county court of Leon county the civil and criminal jurisdiction heretofore belonging to said county court under the Constitution and General Statutes of the State, and to conform the jurisdiction of the district court of said county to such change."

House bill No. 577, a bill to be entitled "An act to create a more efficient road system for Montague county, in the State of Texas, and making county commissioners of said county ex officio road commissioners, and prescribing their duties as such, and providing for their compensation as road commissioners, and defining the powers and duties of the commissioners' court of said county, and to provide for the manner of training the hedges along the public roads, and fixing a penalty for the violation of this act, and to repeal all laws in conflict with this act."

House bill No. 443, a bill to be entitled "An act to create a more efficient road system for Hopkins county, and to make the county commissioners court of Hopkins county ex officio road commissioners, and to define their duties as such, and for the working of county convicts, and for fees of office, witness fees, etc."

Senate bill No. 248, a bill to be entitled "An act to authorize and permit the Aransas Pass Harbor Company to purchase from the State of Texas Harbor island, certain shoal waters and flats in front thereof and in Redfish bay, on the Gulf coast of Texas, in order to encourage the procuring and maintenance of deep water at Aransas Pass."

Respectfully,
LEE J. ROUNTREE, Chief Clerk.

IN SENATE.

The above reported House bills were read first time, and referred as follows:

House bill No. 473, to Judiciary Committee No. 1.

House bill No. 577, to Committee on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.

House bill No. 443, to Committee on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.

On motion of Senator Yantis, the regular order of business was suspended to take up, on its second reading,

House joint resolution No. 7, ratifying and confirming the action of the attorneys representing the State of Texas in compromising its claim to its University lands in McLennan county, Texas,"

Resolution read second time, and passed to third reading.

On motion of Senator Yantis, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill put upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—23.

Atlee.	Lewis.
Bailey.	Linn of Victoria.
Beall.	Morriss.
Bowser.	Neal.
Burns.	Presler.
Colquitt.	Rogers.
Darwin.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Tillett.
Goss.	Wayland.
Gough.	Woods.
Greer.	Yantis.
Harrison.	

Nays—none.

Absent.

Boren.	Terrell.
Stone.	Turney.

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

Resolution read third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—23.

Atlee.	Lewis.
Bailey.	Linn of Victoria.
Beall.	Morriss.
Bowser.	Neal.
Burns.	Presler.
Colquitt.	Rogers.
Darwin.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Tillett.
Goss.	Wayland.
Gough.	Woods.
Greer.	Yantis.
Harrison.	

Nays—none.

Absent.

Boren.	Terrell.
Stone.	Turney.

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

On motion of Senator Greer, the regular order of business was suspended to take up on its second reading,

Senate bill No. 288, a bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway Company to purchase the Texas, Louisiana and Eastern Railroad, and to operate the same under the charter of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway Company as a part of its own line, with the right to extend the same, and to construct branches therefrom by amendment of its charter under the general laws of the State of Texas."

Bill read second time, and ordered engrossed.

(Senator Tillett in the chair.)

Senator Darwin moved to adjourn to 10 a. m. Monday.

Lost.

On motion of Senator Greer, the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days was suspended, and the bill put upon its third reading and final passage by the following vote:

Yeas—21.

Atlee.	Linn of Victoria.
Bailey.	Morriss.
Beall.	Neal.
Boren.	Presler.
Bowser.	Rogers.
Burns.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Tillett.
Goss.	Wayland.
Gough.	Woods.
Greer.	Yantis.
Lewis.	

Nays—2.

Darwin.	Harrison.
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Absent.

Colquitt.	Terrell.
Stone.	Turney.

Excused.

Kerr.	Stafford.
Linn of Wharton.	Yett.

Bill read third time, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas—22.

Atlee.	Harrison.
Bailey.	Lewis.
Beall.	Linn of Victoria.
Boren.	Morriss.
Bowser.	Neal.
Burns.	Presler.
Darwin.	Rogers.
Dibrell.	Ross.
Goss.	Tillett.
Gough.	Wayland.
Greer.	Yantis.

Nays--1.

Woods.

Absent.

Colquitt.

Terrell.

Stone.

Turney.

Excused.

Kerr.

Stafford.

Linn of Wharton. Yett.

On motion of Senator Darwin, the Senate adjourned to 10 o'clock a. m. Monday.

FIFTY-THIRD DAY.

Senate Chamber,
Austin, Texas, March 22.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Lieutenant Governor Jester in the chair.

Roll called.

Quorum present, the following Senators answering to their names:

Atlee.	Lewis.
Bailey.	Linn of Victoria.
Beall.	Morriss.
Bowser.	Neal.
Burns.	Presler.
Colquitt.	Rogers.
Darwin.	Ross.
Dibrell.	Terrell.
Goss.	Tillett.
Gough.	Wayland.
Greer.	Woods.
Harrison.	Yantis.
Kerr.	

Absent.

Boren. Turney.
Linn of Wharton. Yett.
Stone.

Excused.

Stafford.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. F. S. Jackson.

Pending the reading of the Journal of Saturday.

On motion of Senator Woods, the same was dispensed with.

On motion of Senator Ross, Page Edgar Rogan was excused for absence on Friday and Saturday last.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS.

By Senator Beall:

Petition from teachers of Johnson and Hill counties opposing the Presler text-book bill, and urging the re-establishment of the chair of Pedagogy in the State University and the appointment of Dr. J. Baldwin thereto.

Read and referred to the Committee on Education.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 17, 1897.

Hon. Geo. T. Jester, President of the Senate, and Hon. L. T. Dashiell, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Your joint committee composed of Senators Goss, Presler, Ross, Woods and Kerr on the part of the Senate, and Messrs. McGaughey, Williams, Blair, Barrett and Fields on the part of the House, to whom was referred the question of uniform text-books for the public free schools of this State, beg leave to report that we have carefully and laboriously discussed and investigated the subject referred to us, and a majority of your committee recommend that this Legislature pass a bill providing for a State uniform series of text-books for the public free schools of this State. We do not report any bill for the reason that bills on the subject are now pending in both houses of the Legislature.

GOSS, Chairman.

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, March 12, 1897.

Hon. Geo. T. Jester, President of the Senate:

We, a minority of your joint committee, composed on the part of the Senate of Senators Presler, Goss, Ross, Woods and Kerr, and on part of the House, Messrs. McGaughey, Barrett, Blair, Fields and Williams, apponited to consider the question of a uniform series of text-books for the public free schools of the State, beg leave to report as follows:

After giving the subject what we consider mature deliberation, can not concur in the majority report presented to the Senate and House, purporting to express the sense of the committee in favor of uniformity of text-books for the full State to be used in every county in the State, but do believe that the same would be detrimental to the cause of education to the public free schools of the State and to the best interests of the State at large, for many reasons. We do believe, however, that some system for uniformity of text-books should be adopted, giving each county the right to adopt its own series of text-books for the public free schools of same, excluding city schools, which are maintained by special tax levied by such cities and towns.

Therefore, we ask that the report of